

## CLAIMS

1. A filter attaching apparatus comprising:

a conveying path for conveying an intermediate product  
5 of a filter cigarette in which a cigarette and a filter are  
aligned with each other in an axial direction thereof,

feeding means for feeding a tip paper piece, in which  
paste is applied to one side thereof, along a prescribed  
feeding path and affixing the tip paper piece to the  
10 intermediate product,

a rolling passage adapted to connect to said conveying  
path, said rolling passage causing the conveyed  
intermediate product to roll in a feeding direction of the  
tip paper piece and winding the tip paper piece around the  
15 intermediate product to form a filter cigarette, and

dust-cleaning means located along said conveying path,  
said dust-cleaning means having a suction opening that  
overlaps at least a passing area of the filter and extends  
in a path direction of said conveying path, and producing a  
20 sucking force through the suction opening.

2. The filter attaching apparatus according to claim  
1, wherein said conveying path includes a train of  
conveying drums that rotate while holding the intermediate  
product on respective outer peripheries thereof, and said  
25 suction opening is formed into the shape of a circular arc  
in section along the outer circumference of said conveying  
drum.

3. The filter attaching apparatus according to claim  
2, wherein said feeding means includes a receiving drum  
30 that rotates while sucking the other side of the tip paper  
piece and affixes the tip paper piece to the intermediate  
product at a position opposite to said conveying drum, and  
said dust-cleaning means further has a nozzle hole

that generates airflow along the outer periphery of said receiving drum to form an air curtain covering a passing area of the tip paper piece immediately before an inlet of said rolling passage.

5           4. The filter attaching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said suction opening extends up to the front of an inlet of said rolling passage.

          5. The filter attaching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said suction opening is provided with a porous  
10 plate.

          6. The filter attaching apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said suction opening extends up to the front of an inlet of said rolling passage and is provided with a porous plate.

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